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Let the idea be before you that this is not a simple fraternity but that we are taking the lead in forming an ideal of modern scholarship in which literary elegance and facility while important elements are not the prime factors but in their place intellectual discernment and judgment and powers for using means to ends are of prime importance. And to cultivate this spirit in an institution should be the noblest aim of a chapter. * * * I would be jealous of granting a chapter anywhere that I thought [this spirit] was lacking.

From Address of President Henry S. Williams, October, 1896.